



# IMPROVE Newsletter and Calendar

---

## 2013 Steering Committee Status Update



Air Resource  
Specialists, Inc.  
1901 Sharp Point Drive, Suite E  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
Phone: 970-484-7941  
[www.air-resource.com](http://www.air-resource.com)

Cassie Archuleta

[carchuleta@air-resource.com](mailto:carchuleta@air-resource.com)

IMPROVE Steering Committee Meeting  
Park City, UT  
October 8, 2013



# Quarterly IMPROVE Newsletter

**INTERAGENCY MONITORING OF PROTECTED VISUAL ENVIRONMENTS**

## IMPROVE

2013 The IMPROVE Newsletter Volume 22 / Number 1

**Monitoring update**

**Network operation status**

The IMPROVE (Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments) Program consists of 110 aerosol visibility monitoring sites selected to provide regionally representative coverage and data for 155 Class I federally protected areas. Instrumentation that operates according to IMPROVE protocols in support of the program includes 52 additional aerosol samplers, and optical instrumentation (nephelometers and transmissometers), scene instrumentation (Webcamera systems), and interpretive displays. In March 2013, a new IMPROVE site was installed in South Korea; see page 2 for additional information.

IMPROVE Program participants are listed on page 7. Federal land management agencies, states, tribes, regional air partnerships, and other agencies operate supporting instrumentation at monitoring sites as presented in the map below.

**Monitoring Site Assistance:**  
Aerosol sites: contact University of California-Davis  
telephone: 530/752-1123 (Pacific time)  
Optical/Scene sites: contact Air Resource Specialists, Inc.  
telephone: 970/484-7941 (Mountain time)

**Feature Article: The WRAP Regional Haze Rule Progress Report Support Document, Page 4**

**ATTENTION:** Due to cost savings measures recently implemented, the quarterly IMPROVE newsletters and the IMPROVE calendar will be discontinued until further notice. Meanwhile, the newsletter distribution list will be retained, and important news items are expected to be relayed by e-mail. Also, as the IMPROVE calendar was largely a scheduling tool, an alternate, simpler scheduling tool showing filter change dates and other important considerations is expected to be provided beginning in 2014. See Page 7 for additional information.

**Data availability status**

While the IMPROVE Newsletter will no longer provide quarterly data collection statistics, data will continue to be available on the Web sites noted below.

- IMPROVE Web site  
<http://vista.cira.colostate.edu/improve/Data/data.htm>
- VIEWS Web site  
<http://vista.cira.colostate.edu/views>
- Federal Environmental Database (FED)  
<http://views.cira.colostate.edu/fed/>

Webcamera real-time images and associated air quality data are available on agency-supported Web sites:

- National Park Service  
<http://www.nature.nps.gov/air/WebCams/>
- U.S. Forest Service  
<http://www.fsvisimages.com>
- CAMNET (Northeast Camera Network)  
<http://www.hazecam.net>
- Midwest Haze Camera Network  
<http://www.mvhazecam.net>
- Wyoming Visibility Network  
<http://www.wyvisnet.com>
- Phoenix Visibility Network  
<http://www.phoenixvis.net>

IMPROVE and IMPROVE Protocol Sites  
2013

Monitoring update continued on page 3....

- Produced by ARS
- Premier issue in March, 1992
- Quarterly submissions through 2012 (80 issues)
- New editor in 2013
  - Gloria with ARS was responsible for all issues prior to 4<sup>th</sup> Q 2012!
- One final 2013 issue after cost savings measures implemented
  - Savings of ~\$8k/year



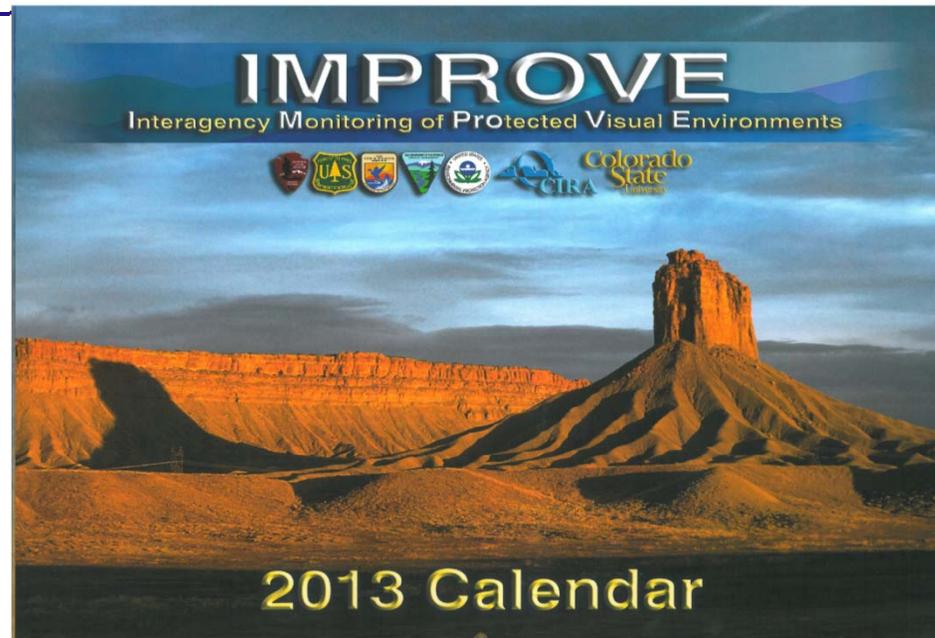
# Quarterly IMPROVE Newsletter

---

- **Content of newsletter:**
  - Network status and updates
  - Provide data summary statistics from previous quarter
  - Feature articles related to the network and data
  - Site operator profiles
- **As of 2013:**
  - 126 e-mail recipients
  - Hard copies mailed to sites?
- **Future communication of important milestones and events?**
  - Retain e-mail distribution list
  - Update list using a cross-check with UC-Davis site operator and network contact list?



# IMPROVE Calendars



- **Produced by CIRA between 2003 and 2013**
- **2014 calendar not produced due to cost savings measures implemented in 2013**
  - **Savings of ~\$11k/year**
    - **Included drafting, printing and shipping for 1000 calendars**



# IMPROVE Calendars

- In January 2013, Julie Winchester (senior editor for the IMPROVE calendars) distributed a survey asking about calendar utility
- Select responses from May, 2013:

“The calendar is educational, interesting (with bios), and beautiful. It reminds me why I work on reducing pollution.”

Margaret Earnest, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

“Being in this year’s calendar has been a highlight in my career as not all operators receive recognition where they work and I thank you from the bottom of my heart!”

Diane Bedlington, Washington Department of Ecology

“Having worked in the air quality field for 20+ years, the IMPROVE calendar is the finest work of art, educational value I have seen produced by any other agency I have been involved with. I cannot say enough. You do amazing work. I am willing to pay for it in the future!”

Donovan Rafferty, Washington Department of Ecology



# IMPROVE Calendars

- **Original intended purpose of calendars:**
  - Scheduling tool for sampling days and cartridge changes
  - Relayed information on protocol changes, maintenance notes and useful troubleshooting information
  - Other topics of interest:
    - Monthly feature highlighting a site operator
    - Provided broader context for IMPROVE data by including interesting feature articles
- **Future of calendars?**
  - Scale back to a simple scheduling tool?
    - EPA 1 page sampling calendar is included as an example on next slide
  - Web-based to save on printing and mailing?

# Example: EPA 1/3, 1/6 and 1/12 Day Sampling Schedule

## 2013 Monitoring Schedule

3-day & 6-day Monitoring Schedule for TSP, Pb, PM-10, PM-2.5, and VOC. 12-day Monitoring Schedule for PM-2.5 Collocation.

